

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.112, in light of the remarks which follow is respectfully requested. Claims 60-104 are currently pending.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for calling Applicants' representative to discuss potential amendments to the claims on March 18, 2002. As suggested by the Examiner, new Claims 60-104 have been added, reciting methods of inhibiting, such as "a method of inhibiting the proliferation of cancer cells". Claim 60 recites a method for inhibiting the proliferation of cancer cells in a subject inflicted with cancer. Claim 65 recites a method for inhibiting the proliferation of dermal or epidermal cells in a subject inflicted with a disorder of proliferation of dermal or epidermal cells. Claim 70 recites a method for inhibiting the proliferation of keratinocytes in a subject inflicted with a disorder of proliferation of keratinocytes. Claim 75 recites a method for inhibiting the differentiation of keratinocytes in a subject inflicted with a disorder of differentiation of keratinocytes. Claim 80 recites a method for inhibiting inflammation in a subject inflicted with inflammation. Claim 85 recites a method for inhibiting light-induced or chronological aging of the skin in a subject inflicted with light-induced or chronological aging of the skin. Claim 90 recites a method for inhibiting dermal atrophy induced by local or systemic corticosteroids in a subject inflicted with dermal atrophy induced by local or systemic corticosteroids. Claim 95 recites a method for inhibiting a cicatrization disorder in a subject inflicted with cicatrization disorder. Claim 100 recites a method for inhibiting alopecia in a subject inflicted with alopecia. The dependent claims are

subgeneric or species claims in which the compounds are more narrowly defined than in the generic claims. The definitions of the compounds in the generic claims have been revised to delete redundant or other unnecessary phraseology and to correct minor errors in the structures. All of the claims are fully supported by the specification and claims originally filed in predecessor Application No. 08/930,796, now U.S. Patent No. 5,981,776, which claims the compounds *per se*; a copy of that U.S. patent is appended for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants note in particular the following support in the specification for new Claims 60 - 104; at least pages 1-6, 11-15, 17-20, 22-23, the synthetic Examples and the formulation Examples of the original specification as filed.


Applicants further note that, as discussed in the specification on page 17-18, some of the compounds of the present invention are able to act as RAR agonists and others are able to act as RAR antagonists. With regard to the relationship between the activity of the compounds and the therapeutic application of the compounds, Applicants note that the claimed compounds are useful in all of the methods (as claimed in the present Amendment), and are not readily categorized as either RAR agonists or antagonists.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. However, if any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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